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C O N F I D E N T I A L RIYADH 006338

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DEPT FOR NEA/ARPI (WALKER AND SHUKAN)

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/08/2016
TAGS: [PTER](#) [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [LE](#) [SA](#)
SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN DCM GIVES READOUT ON ARAB LEAGUE MEETING

Classified By: Deputy Chief of Mission Michael Gfoeller
for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

¶1. (C) Egyptian DCM Hossam Kassem told the DCM on the evening of August 7 that the Arab League Foreign Ministers' meeting in Beirut had gone well from its members' point of view, and that there were three criticisms leveled against the draft UNSC resolution on Lebanon. The foreign ministers reportedly criticized the draft resolution for:

- a) failing to include a specific point addressing Israel's complete and immediate withdrawal from Lebanon,
- b) not calling for an immediate cessation to hostilities,
- c) not returning Shab'a Farms to Lebanese sovereignty.

¶2. (C) The Egyptian DCM said that the Arab League will send a delegation of member foreign ministers to New York to meet with members of the Security Council and the Secretary General to push for these points to be included. He also said that it was likely that the Saudi government would host a Arab League summit in Mecca in the next few days. He added that he was confident that President Mubarak would attend.

¶3. (C) COMMENT: Today's news reports confirm much of what the Egyptian DCM told the DCM. The DCM was attending a farewell function for the outgoing British DCM, and most of the western diplomats in attendance were unaware of these developments. The Egyptian DCM, commenting on the current mood in the Kingdom, said that indeed there was an increasing anti-Western, anti-U.S. sentiment, and that it reminded him of what he was seeing in his own country. END COMMENT.
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